CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT		
SUBJECT	The Asen Nikolov Textile Factory	DATE DISTR.	8 May 1953	
	in Varna	NO. OF PAGES	3	
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"Information"

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE. THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- The Asen Nikelov Textile Factory is located south of Varna, three kilometers from Galata Point. In 1949, this factory had the same organization as in 1944 and the enlargement work and national inzation has still not been completed. The workers are employed in two shifts per day. Two thousand workers were employed in 1949, as compared to 3,000 at present.
- Equipment consists of 66611ccms, some of which are of German make while others are not English make. Two large Diesel electric motors constitute the power plant which furnishes energy to the factory.
- In Nikolov's time, the factory was using English cotton. During a 24-hour period, it used 40 bales, 250 kilograms each, and made an American-type fabric. At present, the quality of the product is decreasing; some of the output is used by the Plovdiv and Kurdzhali areas. The dyeing department is located 400 meters from the main building.
- In 1949, a motor was removed from the power plant and taken elsewhere. A loom for working Karakonev silk was given to the I May Factory.
- 5. The factory is divided into 12 sections, as follows:
 - First section, Vasil Kolarov, equipped with 55 looms, employs 25 workers in each of its two 8-hour shifts; in one month it produces 34,000 meters of cloth which, however, is of inferior quality; some of the cloth is 90 centimeters wide and some is one meter wide; the fabric is used for sheevellimings;
 - Second section, Georgi Dimitrov, equipped with 55 looms, employs 22 workers in each of its two shifts, produces 34,000 meters of cloth per month;
 - Third section, works the hemp from which heaty cloth for military type coveralls is made, blue color (the looms have four combs); the machinery is of English make; production consists of 20,000-25,000 meters of blue cloth which is used for making coveralls for the workers and technicians;

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- d. Fourth section, equipped with six English-make machines and 41 German-make machines, employs 25 workers in a single-shift day, produces 33,000-34,000 meters of cloth per month;
- e. Fifth section, Nadezhda (a partisan hero who died in the Balkans), equipped with 55 Germanemake and five or six English-make machines, production is the same as that of the fourth section except that the color is different (blue cloth and yellow cloth);
- f. Sixth section, Lyuben Karavelov (patriot killed in the fight against the oppressor during the Turkish domination), equipped with 40 looms, produces ordinary cloth and lining cloth;
- g. Seventh section, equipped with 45 looms; production is the same as for the sixth section;
- h. Eighth section, equipped with 45 looms; production is the same as for the sixth and seventh sections; and
- i. Other sections, details unknown.
- 6. Since 1949, cotton has been obtained from the USSR. Eighty percent of this is later returned to the USSR, in the form of thread, in bobbins 20 centimeters in size. The remaining 20 percent, after processing, is kept in Bulgaria.
- 7. The Russian cotton is of five qualities. At first the quality was the best, but now very bad cot ton (which breaks easily) arrives from the Soviet Union. It is enough to say that the bales bear faded stamps with the date 1929 and the figures 250 kilograms. The factory is able to work 40 bales of cotton in a 24-hour period.
- 8. The greater part of the labor force consists of women and girls. In Nikolov's time, the personnel consisted entirely of girls who were employed after a physical examination. They were under 3-year contracts, during which time they could never leave the factory; the factory served as a type of boarding house and furnished rooms and meals. After three years of uninterrupted service, a girl could leave and had title to a sewing machine, 60 meters of cloth, and 2,000 leva. With the advent of the Communist regime, this system was greatly modified. In fact, it has been decreed that of its three units, two must be women; that the workers shall receive wages; that they shall be furnished with food and lodgings; and that they shall have the right to leave.
- 9. Food for the workers consists of two meals costing 75 leva. Wages are fixed at 264 leva (old currency). In order to have food and money, the laborers are given the above mentioned kenor.5-kilogram bobbins and some cloth. The cloth is one meter wide, much in demand, and easily saleable; peasants in particular have great need of this goods.
- 10. Leading personnel are as follows:

a.	Ivan Kovachev, director,	25X1
b.	Takhari Gankov, chief technician	
c.	Sava Tashev, assistant chief technician	
d.	Ivan Zhatov, foreman	,

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e.	Petur Ad	larov,	foremen		

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